

## **MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

**Tuesday, November 29, 2005      4:08 p.m.      Room 307 House Office Building, Lansing**

Representative Nitz, Chair, called the meeting to order.

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Nitz, Ball, Newell, Casperson, Proos, Hune, Mayes, Spade, Kathleen Law, Sheltroun. (10/11)**

**ABSENT/EXCUSED: Representative Stahl. (1/11)**

Chair Nitz welcomed Jane Marshall, Executive Director of the Food Bank Council of Michigan (FBCM), and Kim Harkness, Food Programs Manager of the FCBM. Ms. Marshall and Ms. Harkness explained that the FCBM raises food donations and funds for member food banks in 83 Michigan counties and outlined activities of member agencies, the various sources of food donations and where donations are directed.

At this time, Representative Law made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of November 8, 2005, supported by Representative Ball. No objections being offered, a unanimous ballot was cast to accept the minutes as presented.

The FBCM presentation continued with a review of the Michigan Agriculture Surplus System (MASS) and detailed economic advantages for farmers, how MASS is funded and how it works as well as food industry changes.

Following discussion, Representative Casperson made a motion to excuse absent members, supported by Representative Sheltroun. No objections being offered, absent members were excused.

There being no additional business before the Committee, Chair Nitz declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 4:35 p.m.

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Representative Neal Nitz, Chair

Catherine Petroskey, Committee Clerk  
(517) 373-8538

